



**Start of Julius Mosenfelder
Collection.**

AR 11859

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AR 11869

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Julius Mosenfelder Collection

1853-circa 1970

Archives

Notes on Urspringen, Germany

Source: Urspringen. A Jewish Community, Synagogue and Genizah. TT
Translation by Howard Fine

A small village in the hills of Franconia between Spessart and Main, a traditional Jewish community whose origins reached back into the sixteenth century, destroyed during the National Socialist era. Until the beginning of the 19th century, Jews in Urspringen were subject to special laws, and were under the protection of various ruling noblemen.

Records indicate about 45 Jews dwelt in Urspringen as early as 1655,

There were about 230 Jewish inhabitants in Urspringen in 1837, its largest population, comprising about one fifth of the total population.

They supported themselves as livestock traders and middlemen trading with agricultural products and finished goods.

Urspringen Jews had their own synagogue and ritual bath.

Until 1861 the freedom to choose their dwelling places, and the number of Jewish inhabitants permitted in each village was strictly controlled. As a result of those restrictions, many Jews emigrated to other countries or moved into larger cities outside Bavaria.

By 1902 only 102 Jews still lived in Urspringen. By 1933 their numbers had declined to a mere 78.

Under the National Socialist regime, the Jews in Urspringen suffered the discrimination and persecution of Jews throughout Germany.

1935

Beginning around 1933, the village's non-Jewish community became increasingly responsible for attacks against the Jewish community. At least one incident bears witness to the close relationship

that had originally flourished between Urspringen's Jewish and non-Jewish citizens. Just prior to his deportation, Justin Adler, then leader of the Israelite Cultural Community, entrusted his congregation's ritual objects into the care of a trusted villager who hid them in his own home, thus rescuing them from the National Socialists. The villager surrendered these long-hidden objects into the hands of the American military government in 1947, after which time the artifacts vanished from sight.

Members of the National Socialist storm troopers ravaged (the Jewish community) from noon on Nov. 10, 1938, until midnight. Vandals forced their way into Jewish homes, and demolished everything they found. The synagogue was raided, Torah scrolls were seized, unravelled, and discarded in the streets. Except for the old men, all other Jewish adults were arrested and imprisoned. Although most of these men were released a few days later, the remainder were sent to the concentration camp in Dachau. After the pogrom Urspringen's Jews were forced to give up their homes, and property, and were compelled to move into smaller quarters. Jewish religious services were prohibited. Near the end of April, 1942, the 42 Jews still living in Urspringen were taken into Wurzburg, where they were then deported by train to Izbica (near Lublin). It is likely that their murders took place at the extermination camp Belzec.

After the war no original Jewish survivors returned to Urspringen. Despite the damages it had suffered, the synagogue building was relatively in tact, as was the former Jewish schoolhouse. The synagogue now stands as a memorial to Urspringen's vanished Jewish community.

#The synagogue was built in 1803.



(Founded
1804)

TEMPLE ROSE RECORDS CIRCUMCISIONS 1845-1886
RODEPH SHAMAH

רנ	תְּנִינָה	שם	שם	תְּנִינָה	רֶמֶח	רֶמֶת	רֶנֶג
13	13 Aug	מאיר הלוּי	דָּוָר	רֶמֶח	248		
14	August	שָׁקָּה וְאַתְּהָנָן					
	Philadelphia			Gondoloff			
15	26 Aug	יְהוָנָה אַבְרָהָם	וְיָהָבָת	רֶמֶת	249		
16	August	רָאָה					
	Philadelphia			Mosenfeller			
17	3 Sep	אוֹרִי הַלְוִי	בְּנִימִין	רֶנֶג	250		
18	September	שָׁקָּה שׁוֹפְטִים					
	Philadelphia			Olshimer			
19	7 Sep	אַפְרִים מְשָׁה עַקְבָּר	רֶנֶג אַפְרִים				
20	September	סְתָּרָן					
	Philadelphia			Straus			
21	19 Sep	שְׁמוֹאֵל	רֶנֶב בְּרוּן				
22	September	נְצָבִים					
	Philadelphia			Blatt			
23	21 Sep	אַבְרָהָם	רֶנֶג מְנַחָּם				
24	September	נְצָבִים					
	Philadelphia			Althamer			

A. MOSENFELDER, HEAD OF LEADING LOCAL FIRM DIES

Dissolution Follows Illness of Diabetes, Condition Having Been Grave Since Saturday.

IN BUSINESS HERE SINCE 1878

First Entered in Partnership With Leopold Simon in Rock Island House 29 Years Ago.

Alphons Mosenfelder, senior member of the firm of Mosenfelder & Sons, 1709-1711 Second avenue, died at the family residence, 808 Twentieth street, at 2:45 o'clock this afternoon.

Death resulted from diabetes. He had been ill two weeks. His condition became grave Saturday and his decline since then was gradual. His death had been expected, momentarily for the last three days.

Alphons Mosenfelder was born in Philadelphia in 1854. In 1856, when he was two years old, his late parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Mosenfelder, removed to Rock Island and he grew into boyhood here, being educated in the common schools in this city. In his leisure time, while he was not at his studies, he assisted his parents in conducting the grocery store which they operated for many years on the southwest corner of Seventeenth street and Sixth avenue.

After graduating from public school he learned the trade of cigarmaker in the shop conducted by the late Charles Hengler in the building where the Adams Express company is now located, 1811 Second avenue. While still in his teens he was made foreman of the shop.

In 1871 he became employed as salesman in the clothing store conducted by Jonas Bear in the Buford block, where the Best building is now located. There he worked until the present Rock Island house was built, and Mr. Bear placed him in a new store he opened in the hotel building on Dec. 13, 1875. The Rock Island house store was conducted under the firm name of L. Simon & Co. until 1878, when Mr. Bear went to Europe to visit his old home, and left Mr. Mosenfelder in charge of both stores.

Mr. Bear took his stock out of the store in the Rock Island house and

VETERAN MERCHANT CLAIMED BY DEATH



Alphons Mosenfelder.

moved it to the one in the Buford block in 1878. Mr. Mosenfelder then became partner in the firm of Simon & Mosenfelder. In December, 1904, the firm dissolved partnership, and in January, 1905, the firm of Mosenfelder & Sons was organized, and he conducted it with the assistance of his three sons, Gabriel, Arthur and Hugo, until the time of his death.

Mr. Mosenfelder was married in 1879 to Miss Emily Holtz, an adopted sister of Mr. Bear, who accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Bear from Europe the year before.

Mr. Mosenfelder at the time of his

death was one of the oldest clothing house merchants actively engaged in the business in the tri-cities. His acquaintance, not only in Rock Island but in the county as well, was large, his identity as the head of the mercantile establishment bringing him into contact with the trade from places many miles around here.

The deceased merchant had a reputation for honest business dealings which he inculcated in the employees of his store and his policies of conducting the business met with the approval of the ever increasing patronage with the result that his establishment is considered one of the leading ones in its line in the three cities. In private life Mr. Mosenfelder was a kind father and husband and his home comforts always proved an attraction for him. He was a member of the Rock Island Business Men's Association and was affiliated with Rock Island Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and Rock Island Lodge I. O. O. F.

Six children survive. Surviving are the wife and six children. The sons are Gabriel, Arthur, Hugo and Simon of Rock Island. The daughters are Miss Blanche of Rock Island and Mrs. Jeanette Abrahams of Boston, who was at his bedside at the time of Mr. Mosenfelder's death.

Two brothers and two sisters also survive him. The brothers are Louis Mosenfelder and Eli Mosenfelder, of the firm of Mosenfelder and Kohn of this city. The sisters are Mrs. Louis Kohn of Rock Island and Mrs. Leopold Simon of Davenport. The late Mrs. Elizabeth Bear, wife of Jonas Bear, who died in 1904, was a sister of the deceased.

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SPECIALS For Saturday

Gold Medal and Ceresota	
flour, in large sacks	\$2.59
Highest grade creamery	
butter, per lb.	.41c
ORANGE DAY SPECIALS	
One thousand oranges,	.01c.
each	
Limit 25 to a customer.	
Fancy assortment of all sizes	
of navel oranges, per	
dozen	.19c, .29c, .39c and .44c
Largest size grapefruit,	
each	.10c, .8 for 25c
10 lbs "Illinois Reds"	
apples	.39c
10 lbs fancy red Gano	.49c
apples	
10 lbs fancy Baldwin ap-	.59c
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12½c cans red beans, peas	
and limmony, 2 cans	.19c
2 cans white beans	

J. MOSENFELDER IN FINAL SLEEP

Well Known Rock Island Citizen Passes Away at Eripe Old Age.

NEAR THE 90 YEAR MARK

Had Been Resident Here Since 1856
Leaves Large Family—The
Funeral Arrangements.

After a life of four score and ten, the years of which were fraught with wonderfully beautiful home life and remarkable success in the accomplishment of worldly achievement, Julius Mosenfelder, sturdy pioneer resident of Rock Island, passed away at an early hour this morning in his home, 1420 Sixth avenue. Illness covering a period of three months caused his passing. Four years ago Mr. Mosenfelder sustained an injury to his foot, and recently gangrene poisoning set in and hastened his death. The last hours of his life were made happy by the presence of his surviving children at his bedside.

BORN IN GERMANY.

Born in the year 1822, this prominent citizen of Rock Island would have attained his 90th birthday anniversary June 21. The scene of his birthplace was Ursprung, Bavaria, Germany. When a lad of 8 years, his father and mother and his brothers were stricken with an epidemic of typhoid fever which prevailed, and Mr. Mosenfelder with his sisters, survived.

ENLISTS AS DRUMMER BOY.

When he was 15 years old his guardian allowed him to enlist in the army of the German empire as a drummer boy. For 10 years he served his country faithfully and well, and as a mark of esteem for the services which he rendered was advanced to the office of first sergeant. In 1849, at the time of the revolution, he retired from the army, and in the following year landed in Baltimore. From there he went to Philadelphia, where he and Miss Barbara Heldelberger were united in marriage Oct. 5, 1860. The 50th anniversary of that event was observed in 1900, when the children and grandchildren gathered to help commemorate the anniversary.

HERE IN 1866.

It was in the year 1866 that the Mosenfelders came to Rock Island. Im-

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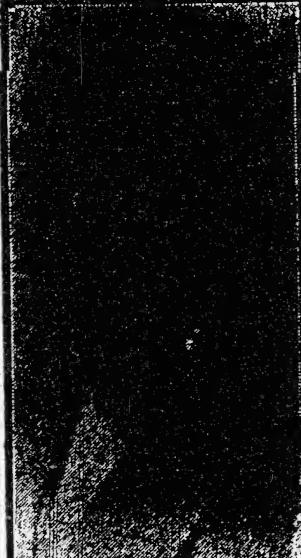
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Julius Mosenfelder.

mediately the father and husband opened a grocery store at the corner of Seventeenth street and Sixth avenue. He continued in business till he had passed a half century in it, when he retired to private life. It was one of his ambitions to retire after he had conducted the business that long. Through it all his wife and his children were able helpers.

SPREADS CHEER.

During the time of the civil war it was he who helped to cheer those who were obliged to stay at home. Whenever news of victory for the union forces came from the front it was he, the drummer boy of the Bavarian army, that led the celebration. At the same time he acted as overseer of the poor.

Fraternally, he was a member of the Rock Island lodge, No. 18 of the Odd Fellows, and at the time of his death was a member in good standing. He was one of the charter members of the Turner society of Rock Island, and its first president. He was the last surviving charter member residing in Rock Island. Politically, he was honored by being elected to the office of alderman from the Third ward, and for a while served as assistant supervisor.

EDUCATION THROUGH READING.

It was while he served as a member of the army of his native country that he laid the foundation for his education. He served as custodian of the library there and took advantage of the opportunity to become informed through the reading of the best books. The habit formed then, he continued until incapacitated by illness. This made him one of the best read men in the city. Not only was he conversant with the books of the early masters, but he was alive to the important topics of the day.

SURVIVING FAMILY.

Mrs. Mosenfelder died four years ago. Of the seven children, one died in infancy and the eldest, the late Mrs. Jonas Bear, died eight years ago. He leaves five children, Alfonse Mosenfelder, Mrs. Leopold Simon, Eli Mosenfelder, Mrs. Louis Kohn and Louis Mosenfelder, 22 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Six of his grandsons will act as bearers at his funeral which is to be held at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Services which are to be private, will be conducted by Dr. Loewenstein of Temple Immanuel, Davenport. Burial is to be in Chipmunk Creek cemetery. It is the request of the family that flowers be omitted.

LIFE OF HAPPINESS.

His early life blighted by the loss of his parents and his brothers, Mr. Mosenfelder lived to enjoy many of the best things in life. His marriage was a happy one and all the days of her life with him, his wife helped him in every way. Their early home in the same building with their busi-

Students to Present Comedy Play,

“HICKS AT COLLEGE”

Elaborate preparations are being made by the class of 1912 to present the comedy play, "Hicks at College" at the dedication of the new home of Brown's Business college of this city, Wednesday evening, Jan. 31.

The play promises to be a success and it is expected that every chair will be taken.

Followed by Box Socials

chine had been worked overtime, and pipes instead of being filled with gas became charged with non-combustible elements.

MAY 14 1908 ROCK IS. OBITUARY. ARGUS

Mrs. Julius Mosenfelder.

Mrs. Julius Mosenfelder, a resident of this city since 1856, passed away at 8 o'clock this morning at the home, 1521 Sixth avenue. Mrs. Mosenfelder two years ago suffered a stroke of paralysis, and although her health since had been good, she never fully recovered from the effect of the stroke. She would have celebrated her 88th birthday anniversary had she lived until June 11.

Mrs. Mosenfelder was born in Freihingen, Dukedom of Baden, Germany. She came to the United States about 60 years ago, and in 1850 was married to Mr. Mosenfelder at Philadelphia. Mr. and Mrs. Mosenfelder reached Rock Island, April 17, 1856, and have resided here ever since that time. Mr. Mosenfelder, when he retired from active business a little over a year ago, was the oldest merchant in either Rock Island or Scott counties in point of years in business.

Mrs. Mosenfelder is survived by her husband, two daughters, Mrs. L. Simon, and Mrs. Louis Kohn, both of this city, and three sons, Alfred and Louis of this city, and Eli Mosenfelder, whose residence is in Davenport, although his business interests are in Rock Island. There are also 22 grandchildren and one great-grandchild surviving. She was a woman who was greatly beloved by all who knew her, a devoted mother and faithful wife.

The funeral services, which will be private, will be held tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock at the home. The services will be conducted by Rabbi W. H. Fineshriber of Davenport. Burial will take place at Chippewa Rock cemetery. The family requests that no flowers be sent.

Mrs. Wphling.

The funeral of Mrs. Frederick Wphling, 622 Ninth street, who died yester-

"The addition of these 20 r and equipments, together with track facilities afforded by Rock Island bridge, should substantial gains in earning street railway department.

"Lighting and power transmission lines have been constructed platt of the People's Power Co line, to substations at Rock Is Davenport. This will bring economy in operation by the dation of the several power Distribution lines. In all three have been overhauled, re-arranged, and extended.

The Local Substation.

"One-half of the old engine the Tri-City Railway company plant in Rock Island has been sold for a substation. Some old type steam units have carded, and in their place installed, two 400 K. W. motor sets, with the necessary transformers. Other transformer moved from the Moline plant. All electrical energy for power lighting for Rock Island is drawn from this substation.

"The electric power plant has been practically completed, has a generating capacity of 1,000 horsepower.

"In accordance with the requirements of the franchise company in the city of Davenport ground conduits are being laid for all wires within the fire line.

"The operation of the Gas & Electric company's gas in Davenport has been discontinued.

"The old storage holder, a fine gas plant had a capacity of 1,000 cubic feet, which was inadequate, and a new gas holder with a capacity of 500 feet has been erected, to meet requirements of new business.

"The efforts made during year to secure new business resulted in most satisfactory and we have every reason that by the continuation of business-getting campaign for the coming year will be

Miss Harriet C. Lee



**End of Julius Mosenfelder
Collection.**